

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

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MAY 30 1975

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman
United States Senate Select Committee
on Intelligence Activities
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Church:

It is my understanding that the continuing efforts of staff members of the Executive and Legislative Branches to prepare standard guidelines for witness interview procedures are continuing this week. While that process continues, the Department of Justice is, of course, continuing to cooperate in an ad hoc and responsive manner. In order to ensure our attention to these cooperative efforts, I have designated K. William O'Connor as Special Counsel for Intelligence Coordination and as such he will be the principle liaison officer of DOJ in this effort. I understand that your Chief Counsel and members of his staff are now dealing with Mr. O'Connor in the execution of their responsibilities.

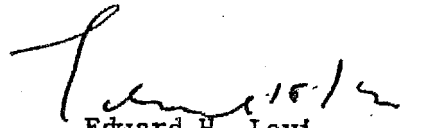
In the meantime, in an effort to expedite the cooperative provision of appropriate information to SSC, it would be most helpful if the Committee Staff would ensure that the Department of Justice is advised, in advance of Committee Staff contact with FBI employees and former employees, of the name of the witness and the scope of the prospective interview. This would facilitate the interview process, since it would make it possible to ensure that appropriate instructions are issued to the witness under 28 CFR 16.22, and would permit early decision upon the release of any applicable secrecy agreements.

cc: ✓ John Warner

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In the same vein, I should like to invite your attention to some procedural matters surrounding recent witness presentation before the Committee. It appears, from reports which I have received, that two former FBI agents who recently appeared, did not receive copies of the Committee's Rules of Procedures until immediately before appearance before the Committee; and that the scope of their proposed testimony was defined with somewhat less than optimum precision for pre-clearance. Some procedural problems are almost inevitable, especially in the early stages of hearings. I know that you share my interest in assuring that full procedural due process is unequivocally provided to all witnesses who testify before the Committee or are interviewed by Committee Staff. In calling this matter to your attention I seek your support in restricting such problems to a minimum and prospectively avoiding others of like kind.

Sincerely,



Edward H. Levi
Attorney General

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